

August 2009

Survey of Family Practice and Internal Medicine Physicians

For questions 1 - 4, please rank each choice in order of importance to you, with #1 as the most important.

1. What do you feel are the most pressing problems for patients in obtaining health care in Helena?

- ☐ a. Insufficient numbers of primary care providers
- ☐ b. Lack of some subspecialties in Helena
- ☐ c. Lack of providers in outlying areas
- ☐ d. Cost of health insurance
- ☐ e. Cost of health care
- ☐ f. Other: Please list _____

2. What do you think are the most pressing problems for primary care physicians in practice?

- ☐ a. Reimbursement rates from insurance companies
- ☐ b. Reimbursement rates from Medicare/Medicaid
- ☐ c. Uninsured patients
- ☐ d. Malpractice premiums
- ☐ e. Time spent on uncompensated paperwork
- ☐ f. Cost of office overhead
- ☐ g. Other: Please list _____

3. What do you feel is most stressful for primary care physicians in practice?

- ☐ a. Interactions with other physicians
- ☐ b. Interactions with hospital &/or clinic administration
- ☐ c. Interactions with patients
- ☐ d. Time constraints impacting family life
- ☐ e. Other: Please list _____

4. What would have the biggest impact on retaining primary care physicians in Helena?

- ☐ a. Salaried physician jobs
- ☐ b. Assistance with student loan repayment
- ☐ c. Assistance with malpractice premiums
- ☐ d. Better reimbursement rates for Medicare and Medicaid
- ☐ e. Other: Please list _____

5. A number of primary care physicians have left practice in Helena in the past year. How has this impacted access to care in Helena?

- ☐ a. No impact
- ☐ b. Minimal impact
- ☐ c. Moderate impact
- ☐ d. Severe impact

6. If a new patient calls your office to establish care, how long would he typically have to wait for a new patient appointment?

- ☐ a. Less than one week
- ☐ b. Less than one month
- ☐ c. 1-3 months
- ☐ d. More than 3 months
- ☐ e. Don't know

7. Are you accepting new self referred patients whose only insurance is Medicare?

- ☐ a. yes
☐ b. no

8. Are you accepting new self referred patients whose only insurance is Medicaid?

- ☐ a. yes
☐ b. no

9. Are you accepting new self referred patients whose only insurance is "self pay"?

- ☐ a. yes
☐ b. no

10. Do you use an electronic medical record in you practice?

- ☐ a. yes
☐ b. no

If yes, has it made your practice more efficient?

- ☐ a. yes
☐ b. no

If yes, does the system allow you to communicate with other systems?

- ☐ a. yes
☐ b. no

11. How much student debt did you have when you began practice in Helena?

- ☐ a. None
☐ b. Less than \$10,000
☐ c. \$10,100 to \$25,000
☐ d. \$25,100 to \$50,000
☐ e. \$50,100 to \$100,000
☐ f. Over \$100,000

10. Please add any comments.

Thank you for your participation.